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being uniform, while the velocity in lead diminishes very rapidly.

24. The siphon action with a tin bar cannot be long maintained, on account of the crystallization and consequent brittleness of the bar.

25. The crystalline amalgam has a constitution of $Hg\ Sn_8$.

26. The liquid amalgam contained 1.55 per cent. to 1.73 per cent. of tin.

27. The crystalline amalgam loses nothing by atmospheric diffusion.

28. Quicksilver permeates gold and silver, but very slowly.

29. Zinc and cadmium are permeable to mercury, but dissolve in it.

30. Iron, platinum, palladium, and copper bars are not at common temperatures permeable to mercury.

Three hundred and fifty-sixth meeting.

January 28, 1852. — ADJOURNED STATUTE MEETING.

PROFESSOR PEIRCE in the chair.

The Recording Secretary reported a list of the Members of the Academy, arranged in classes and sections by the Council, agreeably to the vote of the Academy at its last statute meeting.

The Academy then proceeded to consider the amendments to the statutes reported by Professor Peirce at the last statute meeting. After some discussion, it was

Voted, That the amendments to the statutes, proposed at the adjourned statute meeting held December 3, 1851, be adopted.

Dr. B. A. Gould, Jr. stated several reasons, which he thought rendered it desirable that the nomination of Foreign and Associate Members should be vested, as far as practicable, in those sections of the Academy, to which, if elected, they would belong. After a long discussion, he offered the following amendment to the statutes: —

"The Council for nomination shall consist of the President, Vice-President, and the two Secretaries, together with three Fellows from each of the three classes of the Academy, to be elected by ballot at the annual meeting: and it shall be the duty of the Council, in nominating Foreign and Associate Members, to consult the wishes of that section of the Academy to which, if elected, the candidate would belong."

On motion of Mr. Gould, it was

Voted, That this proposed amendment be referred to a special committee, with instructions to report it, with such modifications as they may deem expedient, for the action of the Academy at their annual meeting in May.

Voted, That Professor A. Gray, Professor Horsford, Dr. B. A. Gould, Jr., Dr. W. F. Channing, and Mr. J. D. Whitney be that committee.

Three hundred and fifty-seventh meeting.

February 3, 1852. — MONTHLY MEETING.

The PRESIDENT in the chair.

Professor Peirce made an oral communication of considerable length, on the "Surface of Least Extent."

Professor Eustis exhibited to the Academy a very elaborate and beautifully executed plan, on a large scale, of three miles and a quarter of the track of the late tornado in Middlesex County, beginning at Wellington Hill in Waltham, and extending north 70° east to Mystic River. He commenced the survey ten days after the occurrence of the tornado, and completed it in eleven days, with the help of twenty assistants. In describing his method of conducting the survey, he stated that he first determined a central line, and then divided the track into sections, by transverse lines at intervals of one hundred feet. He measured the exact position and direction of every important object with reference to these lines. He pointed out some of the more striking features of the tornado as indicated by his plan.

On motion of Professor Peirce, it was